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## EXPANSION OF CONSUMER COOPERATIVE

The Railroad Consumer Cooperative in Pilsen, the West Bohemian Butcher Cooperative in Pilsen, the Obchodni Trznice (Markets), and the West Bohemian Cooperative Bakeries all were combined into the West Bohemian Consumer Cooperative in 1948.

Membership in the West Bohemian Consumer Cooperative rose from 66,154 in 1948 to 95,460 on 30 September 1949. It had 722 sales outlets of colonial goods and 266 special sales outlets as of 24 October 1949.

## CHANGES IN STRUCTURE OF INTERNAL TRADE

The Communist Party and the Union of Distribution Employees of the ROH (Revolutionary Trade Union Movement) so stimulated change in the structure of internal trade that, after the 1945 announcement of the nationalization laws, 24 state trade enterprises with 570 wholesale distribution units were established out of more than 10,000 wholesale firms.

The remaining wholesale system has been either liquidated or transferred to the network of state trade enterprises. In spite of the fact that the public sector formed, according to Minister Krajcir, only about one fifth of the entire trade network, it had more than half of the retail turnover and received three fourths of the goods from the distribution units. The turnover in the private sector decreased by one fourth of the entire retail turnover and now employs 110,000 persons, whereas the public sector gained a higher turnover with only 80,000 employees.

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